

**Suggested Remarks
Jon D. Lindborg
USAID Mission Director**

**Launch
Anticorruption Teaching Exemplars
P. Bernardo Elementary School
Quezon City
2 March 2007, 8:30 AM**

Honorable Tanodbayan Merceditas Gutierrez,
Honorable Education Secretary Jesli Lapus,
Counselor Roger De Backer, The European
Commission
Teachers, Students and Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning.

I am delighted to join you all in launching
the anticorruption teaching exemplars
program in this wonderful school.

We recognize that the Ombudsman is now more
determined in fighting corruption. The
additional budgetary resources that the
Philippine Government is giving to the

Office of the Ombudsman in 2007 is also a significant sign of the Government's commitment on this effort. It means that more resources and people can help in the fight against corruption. The U.S. Government, through USAID, has had a strong partnership with the Office of the Ombudsman to help improve the skills of its new employees. But these resources alone are not enough. The Ombudsman and our friends in Government need the active support of the Filipino people.

In today's activity, we are reminded of the famous adage of your national hero Jose Rizal that the youth are the hope of the nation. Today, the youth of the Philippines hear much about corruption. Unfortunately,

they may even see or hear examples of corruption with their own eyes and ears.

Young Filipinos are the future of this country. They need to know what kind of behavior they should expect from public servants. If they aren't getting what they should from government, they need to know that they can use the power of their vote and voice to change things. These exemplars or instructional materials for teachers go through these and many other useful lessons that school children should learn, for change will be in their hands very soon.

I congratulate the women and men of the Office of the Ombudsman, the Department of Education and the European Commission who

devoted their time and expertise in the development of the anticorruption teaching exemplars program. USAID, through the Millennium Challenge Account - Philippine Threshold Plan, is proud to support the training of trainers that will be spreading the lessons to public schools across the country.

We thank the teachers and students of the P. Bernardo Elementary School for hosting this launch and being part of this important and extraordinary effort.

Thank you very much.